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forms of tissue, must of necessity remain obscure for a long time to come.

In conclusion the very copious index should be mentioned, in which the novel and withal convenient practice has been adopted of entering author's names with a full bibliography.

H. M. R.

A Popular Introduction to Forestry. — Professor Filibert Roth, formerly of Cornell University, and now, as chief of the Division of Forestry, U. S. Department of the Interior, in charge of the work in the Government Forest Reserves, has just published "A First Book of Forestry."¹ The little volume is intended for use in the public schools and in country homes, and gives in non-technical language, an exceptionally clear and readable account of some of the significant aspects of forest life and growth, the most important principles underlying the practice of forestry, and the methods now employed in such common forestry processes as thinning the wood-lot; seeding for succession; sowing cleared areas; harvesting the wood crop; protecting the forest from fire, insects and fungus pests; and so on. He makes clear the forester's aim so to harvest each wood crop as to speed its successor, and discusses the six principal methods of accomplishing this. Following these accounts of forest life and forest reproduction and the description of the ways in which forests should be protected and helped to make their best growth, he also tells us some of the indirect benefits of forests, such as the protection of soil and conservation of moisture, and gives us a brief description of our own forests, and a history of forest culture from the times of the Romans. Then the structural features and physical and chemical properties of wood are taken up; and finally, a key is added for the determination of our common trees by characters of leaf, wood and bark, and the several valuable appendices in addition to more technical tables include a convenient reference list of the more important woods and trees of the United States. The illustrations, which are excellent in themselves and admirably related to the text, add greatly to the latter's value. As a popular educator calculated to render more intelligent the growing sentiment in favor of forest protection, this little book should have a wide circle of readers, and its usefulness will hardly be less because of the considerable number of other good books recently published by our American foresters.

J. S. P.

¹ Roth, Filibert. *First Book of Forestry*. Boston. Ginn and Co., 1902. 12mo., 291 pp., illus.